

FEB 16 2005 US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ludwig SCHMIDMAIER et al. : Confirmation No. 2981

Application No. 10/642,568 : TC/Art Unit: 3673

Filed: August 8, 2003 : Examiner: Sunil Singh

For: DEVICE FOR PRODUCING BORED : Atty Docket: P69057US0

PILES

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2004 (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Mail Date 20041217), Applicant submits the following Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a); and any fees required for consideration of this paper and any papers associated with it (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 12 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.